#### Westwood Professional Services

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Mr. Darrell Nitschke Executive Secretary North Dakota Public Service Commission 600 East Boulevard, Dept. 408 Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: Letter of Intent and Request for Reduction of Waiting Period Border Winds Wind Energy Project

File 20071163

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

On behalf of Sequoia Energy U.S. Inc. (Sequoia), Westwood Professional Services is pleased to notify the North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) of Sequoia's intent to construct and operate an energy conversion facility in northeastern North Dakota near the community of Rolla in Rolette and Towner Counties. We are submitting this updated Letter of Intent to define the proposed project more reliably. This updated letter takes into account that certain project parameters cannot be accurately predicted at this time.

Sequoia is a renewable energy company with a head office in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Registered in Delaware, Sequoia is licensed to conduct renewable energy work in North Dakota. As a pioneer in developing a "community first approach" to wind energy development, Sequoia has been instrumental in demonstrating that wind energy is a safe, reliable, economically sound, and socially responsible source of energy for North America. Sequoia prides itself in acting responsibly and collaboratively with key stakeholders. The company seeks to facilitate a smooth introduction of renewable energy into established energy production and transmission networks.

This letter and its attachments are intended to fulfill Sequoia's obligations under Chapter 69-06-03 of the North Dakota Administrative Code. Sequoia is submitting this Letter of Intent prior to filing an application for the required Certificate of Site Compatibility. Sequoia is requesting approval from the PSC to reduce the prescribed one-year notice period between filing of the Letter of Intent and filing of the application for a Certificate of Site Compatibility.

# Size and Type of Facility

The Border Winds Wind Energy Project (Border Winds) will be configured as a wind energy conversion facility with a nameplate capacity of approximately 150 megawatts (MW). The system will include wind turbines mounted on tubular steel towers, a collection system consisting of buried electrical cables, access roads, an operations and maintenance facility, and a substation that will connect the system to an Xcel

<sup>2</sup> PU-08-797 Filed 10/13/2008 Pages: 3 Updated Letter of Intent and Request for Reduction of Waiting Period Sequoia Energy US Inc.

Mr. Darrell Nitschke October 10, 2008 Page 2



Energy transmission line that runs through the project area. The project will use approximately 68 turbines. The facility will be constructed to serve the electric power needs of people and industries in North Dakota and the Upper Midwest Region of the United States.

# Map of Study Area

The Border Winds project area encompasses approximately 122 square miles of land in Rolette and Towner Counties, North Dakota. The project area includes land surrounding the town of Rolla in the Townships of Fairview, Mount Pleasant and Baxter, Rolette County, and the Townships of Picton and Mount View in Towner County, North Dakota. A map showing the proposed project location is provided in Exhibit 1.

# **Anticipated Construction and Operation Schedule**

Sequoia anticipates project construction on Border Winds will start in the Summer or Fall of 2009 and that the facility will become operational in the Fall of 2010.

### **Estimated Cost of Construction**

The estimated cost for the construction of the proposed facility is \$300 million.

### Request for Reduction of Waiting Period

Sequoia respectfully requests that the waiting period between the submission of this Letter of Intent and the submission of the Site Compatibility Permit Application be reduced from one year to one day.

We look forward to working with PSC and its staff to obtain the required certificate for the proposed Border Winds facility. Should you have any questions or require additional information please contact Amy Linnerooth at (952) 906-7423. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

WESTWOOD PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Amy Linnerooth

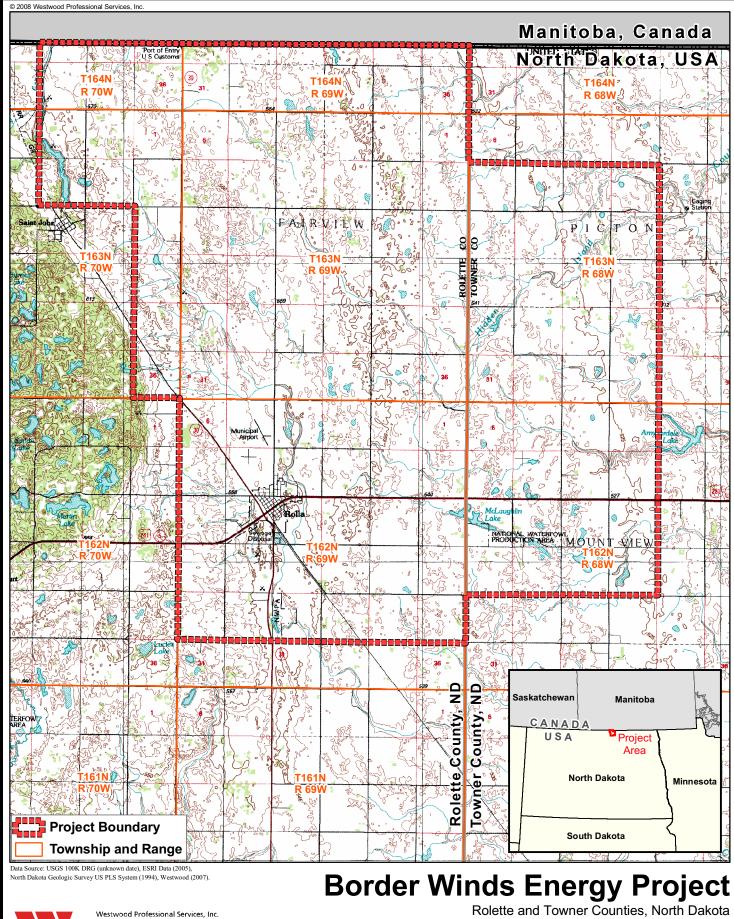
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**Environmental Scientist** 

Robin P. Bouta, CSE, WDC Senior Environmental Scientist

Attachment: Exhibit 1

cc: Ian Witherspoon, Sequoia Energy US Inc.



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Site Location

**EXHIBIT 1**